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1. ASIAN INDIGENOUS AND TRIBAL PEOPLES NETWORK (AITPN)

(Special Consultative Status granted in 2002)

PART I. Introduction

There is no change in the aims and objectives of Asian Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Network (AITPN) as provided in its Trust Deed to advance education of the public by means of securing throughout Asia and elsewhere the observance of the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights, United Nations Draft Declaration on the Rights of the Indigenous Peoples and other international human rights instruments.

AITPN provides accurate and timely information to national human rights institutions, the United Nations and its specialised mechanisms, as appropriate; conducts research, campaigning and lobbying on country situations or individual cases; undertake programmes to increase the capacity of indigenous peoples through relevant training programmes for indigenous peoples' rights activists and community leaders, provides input into international standard-setting processes on the rights of indigenous peoples; and undertakes programmes to secure the economic, social and cultural rights of indigenous peoples through rights-based approaches to development.

PART II: Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

i). Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings.

AITPN has participated in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies. It also submitted written interventions and shadow reports to various Treaty Bodies:

a. United Nations Commission on Human Rights:
61st Session, 14 March - 22 April 2005

Written Statements submitted

- E/CN.4/2005/NGO/8: LMG: Killing the Commission on Human Rights softly
- E/CN.4/2005/NGO/9: Lawless law enforcement in Bangladesh
- E/CN.4/2005/NGO/10: Religious Profiling of Hindu Minorities in Bangladesh
- E/CN.4/2005/NGO/11: Review of AFSPA in India: Too Little, Too Late
- E/CN.4/2005/NGO/12: Pakistan: Cosmetic gesture for confronting honour killings
- E/CN.4/2005/NGO/13: Libya as the EU Immigration Officer: The Need for a United Nations Special Rapporteur on Refugees
- E/CN.4/2005/NGO/14: Bangladesh Ravages Indigenous Jumma People
- E/CN.4/2005/NGO/15: In the line of fire: Human Rights Defenders in Thailand
- E/CN.4/2005/NGO/16: 25 reasons for a country resolution on Nepal

60th Session, 15 March - 22 April 2004

Written Statements submitted

- E/CN.4/2004/NGO/135: South is not uniform - Plain speak about the globalisation

- E/CN.4/2004/NGO/136: UNICEF and Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) are ignoring ethical questions
- E/CN.4/2004/NGO/137: UNHCR: Protector turns predator for Burmese refugees in New Delhi
- E/CN.4/2004/NGO/138: The damp squib of the international decade: adoption of the draft declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples

59th Session, 17 March-23 April 2003

Written Statements submitted

- E/CN.4/2003/NGO/166: Bangladesh: Squandering Peace and Human Rights Dividend
- E/CN.4/2003/NGO/167: Operation Clean Heart: Bangladesh's dirty operation
- E/CN.4/2003/NGO/168: Persecution of Indigenous Degar People of Vietnam

b. Open Ended Working Group on the Draft United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

AITPN participated in the 8th session (2 to 13 December 2002), 9th session (15 to 26 September 2003), 10th session (13 to 24 September 2004 and 29 November to 3 December 2004); and 11th session (5-16 December 2005 and 30 January to 3 February 2006) of the Open Ended Working Group on the Draft United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples of the Commission on Human Rights to contribute towards standard setting processes.

c. Treaty Bodies:

AITPN submitted various shadow reports to the United Nations Treaty bodies as given below:

1. *Torture & Lawless Law Enforcement in Sri Lanka*, 10 November 2005
2. *Torture in Nepal: A Case for Investigation by Committee Against Torture (CAT)*, 2 November 2005
3. *Dimensions of Discrimination in Nepal, A shadow report to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) Committee*, 15 February 2004
4. *The Status of Indigenous and Minority Children in Bangladesh*, June 2003 and
5. *Discrimination against the children of indigenous Degar people in Vietnam*, January 2003

AITPN also participated in the Day of General Discussion on the Rights of indigenous children of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child during its 34th session from 14 September to 3 October 2003.

d. Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

AITPN participated in the Third session 10 to 21 May 2004, Fourth Session (16 to 27 May 2005) and Fifth session (15 to 26 May 2006) of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

ii) Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters.

AITPN has been granted funds by the United Nations Voluntary Funds for Victims of Torture for 2003 and 2004 for its project on legal and quasi-legal assistance to the victims of torture.

iii) Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of internationally agreed development goals, in particular, the Millennium Development Goals, which now form the basis of the global agenda for the 21st century

AITPN has been monitoring the inclusion of indigenous peoples in the programmes for inclusion of indigenous peoples to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

2. ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS (AFN)

(Special Consultative Status granted in 2002)

PART ONE: Factual Information

Since receiving Special Consultative Status, the following changes have taken place within AFN:

- In July of 2003 the AFN held elections for National Chief and Phil Fontaine was elected by the Chiefs in Canada. Elections are held every three years and the next one will be during our Annual General Assembly from 11-13 July, 2006 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

New organizational affiliations include Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with:

2005 –Aliansi Maysarakat Adat Nusantara (AMAN) in Indonesia, Canadian University Services Overseas (CUSO), Organizacion de Naciones y Peubles Indigenas (ONPIA); and **2004** - Reaffirmation of the Declaration of Kinship and Cooperation signed with the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), Public Safety Protocol signed with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP).

Aims/Purposes of the AFN

The AFN is committed to advancing the interests of First Nations peoples generally, more specifically to improve the economic prospects and social conditions for all First Nations peoples. From 2002 to 2005 the AFN carried out these aims through several initiatives, projects and agreements and by our participation in the UN Working Group on Indigenous Populations (WGIP) on the Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Some of the activities domestically include in 2005 an Agreement in principle for settlement of residential school cases; a final report of the AFN Renewal Commission with 47 recommendations for organizational renewal; an unprecedented collaboration of five National Aboriginal Leaders, thirteen provincial and territorial Premiers and the Prime Minister of Canada all agreeing to endorse the agreement reached at the First Ministers Meeting on Aboriginal Issues in Kelowna, British Columbia in November 2005; and a First Nations-Federal Crown Political Accord on the Recognition and Implementation of First Nations Governments was signed.

PART TWO: Participation in and Contribution to the work of the United Nations

2002

United Nations Working Group on Indigenous Populations (WGIP), 22-26 July 2002, Geneva, Switzerland

- AFN provided an intervention in support of the continuation of the WGIP

Preparatory meetings leading to the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSDD), 26 August- 4 September 2002, Johannesburg, South Africa

- Participated as advisors to the Canadian government. The AFN was instrumental in coordinating a meeting of Aboriginal advisors to lobby Canada's Environment Minister to ensure Indigenous Peoples preferred text was implemented into the Final Political Declaration.

Working Group on the United Nations Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 28 January- 8 February 2002, Geneva, Switzerland

- National Chief addressed the working group on the right to self-determination.

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), 25 October 2002, Geneva, Switzerland

- AFN participated in preparatory meetings for the Roundtable for Aboriginal Peoples on discussions of protection of Indigenous Traditional Knowledge.

2003

UNESCO Forum on "Racism" and on "Languages and Culture", February 2003, Paris, France

- Participated in various domestic meetings with UNESCO on Culture and Language.

UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, 12-23 May 2003, New York City, New York

- AFN had a significant presence at this 2nd session.

2004

Commission on Human Rights, 15 March- 23 April 2004, Geneva, Switzerland

- AFN monitored progress where several resolutions were passed including a Canadian-led resolution affirming the collective goal to arrive at a consensus text.

UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, 10-21 May 2004, New York City, New York

NCAI International Indigenous Peoples Meeting, June 2004, Uncasville, Connecticut, USA

- AFN and members of the First Nations Caucus participated on various discussion panels.

Working Group on the United Nations Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 29 November- 4 December 2004, Geneva, Switzerland

- Advocated for Canadian government leadership to forge agreement on substantive matters.

2005

United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, 16-27 May 2005, New York City, New York

AFN attended and organized 4 interventions entitled "Chiefs Committee on Languages, Theme MDG #2; "Chiefs Committee on Education, Theme MDG #2"; "Special Rapporteur, Theme Human Rights"; and "AFN Women's Council, follow-up to previous special theme (MDG #1 and #2), one side event (during week 1, the international secretariat held a side event to make a joint presentation with CIDA, DIAND and Foreign Affairs, regarding the preparations for the 2nd Indigenous Peoples Summit of the Americas), and one press conference (AFN set up an announcement regarding the 2nd Indigenous Peoples Summit of the Americas for the National Chief to make on May 23).

United Nations Forum on Forests, 16-27 May 2005, New York City, New York

- AFN worked with the National Aboriginal Forestry Association, the office of the BC Regional Chief and the AFN Environment Secretariat to prepare for this meeting. Also selected the Aboriginal candidate to participate on the Government of Canada's delegation.

United Nations Working Group on Indigenous Populations (WGIP), 18-22 July 2005, Geneva, Switzerland

- AFN addressed the international and domestic protection of traditional knowledge.

Human Rights Committee, 17 October- 3 November 2005, Geneva, Switzerland

- AFN appeared before the Human Rights Committee to raise questions regarding the Government of Canada's report on the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Issues were raised regarding the right to self-determination, the intent of the federal government in relation to the implementation of the First Nations-Federal Crown Political Accord; the elimination of poverty for First Nations members on and off reserve; the need for implementation of historic Treaties; and First Nation languages.

2005 International Indian Treaty Council Conference, 3-7 August 2005, Hobbema, Alberta, Canada

Working Group on the United Nations Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 5-16 December 2005, Geneva, Switzerland

- The AFN delegation advocates for Canadian government leadership to forge agreement on substantive matters. Also participated in preparatory sessions on the United Nations Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples hosted by the Inuit Circumpolar Conference and the Grand Council of the Crees.

Other AFN Initiatives in Support of Overall Goals / Objectives of the United Nations

The AFN has undertaken many initiatives that support the aims of the United Nations and our work domestically and abroad supports the eight United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Some of these initiatives include the AFN/NCAI joint workplan; the First Nations Caucus; the Official Visit of the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of Indigenous Peoples; several domestic and international invitations and visits; engagement with the Government of Canada on international activities with Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, the Canadian

International Development Agency and the Department of Foreign Affairs; participation at the Organization of American States Working Group on the proposed American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; the 1st Women's Indigenous Summit / Special Summit / 2nd Indigenous Summit of the Americas; Tsunami recovery assistance for Indigenous Peoples from Indonesia; participation in the global anti-poverty strategy; response to the World Bank Operational Policy on Indigenous Peoples; participation in the development of an International Indigenous Women's Leadership Program; participation in the ten-year review of Beijing World Conference on Women; and participation in the NGO meeting and the United Nations' ten-year review of the World Summit on Social Development.

3. CHURCH WORLD SERVICE (CWS)

(Special Consultative status granted in 1974)

Principal Areas of Activity: sustainable development; emergency relief, assistance to refugees

Changes in Governance since the last report: Church World Service separated from the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States, becoming a separate organization governed by a Board of Directors.

Changes in the activities of the organization since the last report: Church World Service continues to be a leader in the field of emergency relief, international development, and refugee assistance. There has not been a major shift in the focus of the activities of the organization since the last report, though the shifting needs of our partners in the global south and lessons learned in prior work have lead to some changes in our program delivery.

Church World Service continues to work both domestically in the United States, as well as throughout the world. As of December 2005, CWS had projects in some 80 countries around the world, including Asia/Pacific, the Americas and the Caribbean, Africa, the Middle East, and Europe and the former CIS countries. The Disaster Relief and Recovery area work was allocated 34% of the funding, followed by Refugee Resettlement and Assistance at 29%, and International self-help Development Assistance at 12%. (Smaller percentages were allocated for US Hunger and Development, Fundraising and Information, Administration, Education and Advocacy, and Mission Relationships.)

Efforts to improve the understanding of our partners and donors on the work of the United Nations: In order to lift the visibility of the United Nations and the importance of our representation work there, CWS established a page on its web site relating to the United Nations. This page allows CWS to highlight work relating to the UN, and our work here is often featured in a news release sent to the press corps.

Similarly, CWS has developed a series of education and advocacy materials for use by our denominations and supporters that refer to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). These materials help bring the MDGs to the attention of members of civil society across the United States, thus helping to build political will for development and for reaching the goals set.

To make the work easier and more effective, Church World Service opened a small office in the Church Center and arranged for representation by a consultant and later employees

of the organization. CWS representatives have engaged with other non-governmental organizations in work on issues of importance to our organization and our partners in the developing world, including access to water, sustainable development, social development, and the complex emergencies in many parts of the world which are impacting families in the most devastating ways.

Part 11 - Church World Service Participation in the work of the United Nations during the reporting period

During the reporting period (2002-2005), Church World Service has had a few shifts in the staffing of its representation function at the United Nations which has created some small gaps in our participation during this period. Nevertheless, CWS has been involved on key issues of importance to its global partners and constituents. Church World Service has participated in the following meetings:

- **United Nations Commission for Social Development (CSocD)**

In the 2005 43rd session of the CSocD (9-18 Feb. 2005) in New York, CWS Representative Albert Gyan played an active role, which included participation on a panel sponsored by the Sub-Committee on the Elimination of Poverty called "Participation Works: International Success in the Fight Against Poverty." CWS worked to ensure that language was included in the outcome document, and worked closely with other NGOs active in the CSocD to bring issues to the attention of the Bureau and the participating member states.

- **United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD)**

CWS was an active participant in the CSD in 2004 (14-30 April) and 2005 (11-22 April). In both years, with the particular focus on water, CWS joined with other NGOs to emphasize in particular the challenges faced by many of our partners in the developing world in accessing water, and the need to look at access to water within a rights-based framework. CWS joined other Major Groups in producing side events and in raising the awareness of the member states and the Bureau of the importance of the issues to many in the global south with whom we work.

- **United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)**

During the meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women on 4-17 March 2005, Church World Service presented a side event entitled "Grassroots Women's Strategies to Combat HIV/AIDS: Home Based Care Approach".

- **Financing for Development**

Thanks to the participation of its consultant, Ms. Philo Morris, CWS was actively represented in the work at the FFD meetings during the 2002-2005. CWS worked collaboratively with other NGOs, cooperating in side events and taking an active role in presenting the concerns of our partners to the member states involved in the negotiations.

- **UN General Assembly 23-24 June 2005 Civil Society Hearings, New York**

Church World Service Representative Albert Gyan took part in the Hearing within the "Freedom from Want" Cluster.

- **Commemoration of World AIDS Day (1 December)**

CWS has commemorated World AIDS Day annually in a number of ways. On 1 December 2003 , Church World Service and other organizations in the Geneva-based Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance worked with UNAIDS to launch a poster exhibition, "Signs of Hope, Steps for Change", featuring artwork created in over 23 countries addressing the stigma and discrimination suffered by those living with HIV and AIDS. The exhibit remained in the UN General Assembly Visitors' Lobby in New York through January 23, 2004, helping to raise awareness among the visitors to and employees of the United Nations. .

Operational Collaboration

As a major player in international emergency relief, Church World Service has maintained a close relationship with the **Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)**. For example, CWS provided immediate relief in the Pakistan earthquake of January 2004 (and fall of 2005), and the tsunami disaster of December 2004. CWS remains very active in both of these areas, providing continuing assistance as the populations try to re-establish their livelihoods and communities.

In September 2005, Church World Service also worked closely with **UNICEF** in the provision of assistance to those affected in the Gulf Coast of the United States by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Specifically, UNICEF provided "Schools in a Box" which were distributed by CWS to devastated areas. This collaboration not only provided important assistance to those affected, but helped to lift the visibility of the United Nations and UNICEF in particular in an area in which the UN is not always clearly understood.

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights -- CWS contributed to the development of a training manual on Human Rights Monitoring prepared by the OHCHR during the reporting period.

Conclusion

Despite some brief gaps in staffing during the reporting period, Church World Service has been active and effective in bringing the needs of our partners in the global south to various United Nations fora and in sharing with our contributors and friends the important work of the United Nations. We have built relationships in many areas of the Organization, and look forward to sharing with you in our next report the work already underway to build on these efforts.

4. DOMINICAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

(Special Consultative Status Granted in 2002)

Introductory Statement

The Dominican Leadership Conference (DLC) represents 42,340 Roman Catholic sisters, brothers, women and men serving in over 120 countries-whose expertise and professionalism include, but are not limited to: education, medicine and health care, social service, environmental science, communications, arts, economics, women's rights, theology and spirituality, law, natural science, political science, international studies.

Members of the DLC have established, staffed, administered and continued to support educational institutions from preschool to university level; established and staffed and administered hospitals, clinics, hospices, nursing homes, assisted living facilities; educated and supported professionals in human services including cross cultural gatherings, family and individual counseling, and treatment of addictions; sponsored community development projects on the grassroots, national, regional levels advocating for women, children, displaced and marginalized persons and the indigenous peoples; supported and advocated for rights of immigrants and refugees, the elimination of racism and intolerance.

Participation in Economic and Social Commission and United Nation Conferences and Meetings

DLC representatives attended and participated in the following UN Conferences/ commissions

- Special Session of the General Assembly on Children, UN Headquarters, NY 8-10 May 2002
- 2005 World Summit UN Headquarters, NY 1 4-16 September

UNDPI: representatives attended weekly briefings and workshops as well as the annual DPI/NGO September meetings. Communication about these briefings as well as about other activities of the DLC is facilitated through an on-line newsletter www.domlife.org and through information posted on the web page www.dlc.org and through a list serve. In addition newsletters of the membership organizations frequently report on DLC/NGO activity. Numerous educational activities are conducted either at or near the UN Headquarters or at the membership site. The main representative served on the DPI Planning Committee and the sub-committee on Midday Workshops for the Conferences in 2004 and 2005

Commission on Social Development

DLC members have participated in the Commission for Social Development; have been active member of the NGO Committee on Social Development and have been involved in planning for the Annual NGO Forum and in collaboration with other NGOs prepared the NGO statement to the Commission, related to the eradication of poverty, issues related to the HIV/AIDS pandemic, and development. Members of the DLC are active in educational, health and social development programs.

During the following sessions of the CSocD, the DLC, in cooperation with other NGOs submitted the following written statements:

41st Session 10-21 February 2003:

E/CN.5/2003/NGO 1-*Forging partnerships for social development;* **E/CN.5/2003/NGO2** - *Social responsibility of the private sector;* **E/CN.5/2003/NGO10** I*nternational finance institutions and their effect on social development strategies;* **E/CN.5/2003/NGO 11** - *Forging National and international cooperation for social development, sharing of expertise and practice;* **E/CN.5/2003/NGO 12** -*Impact of employment strategies on social development*

42nd Session 4-13 February 2004

E/CN.5/2004/NGO 1- *Improving public sector awareness;***E/CN.6/2004/NGO 7-** Improving public sector awareness

43rd Session 9-18 February 2005

E/CN.5/2005/NGO/3, *review of further implementation of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the 24th special session of the General Assembly* **- youth participation; E/CN.5/2005/NGO/5,** *review of further implementation of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the 24th special session of the General Assembly* **-HIV/AIDS pandemic; E/CN.5/2005/NGO/6,** *review of further implementation of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the 24th special session of the General Assembly* **eradication of poverty; E/CN.5/2005/NGO8,** *review of further implementation of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the 24th special session of the General Assembly* **structural adjustment; E/CN.5/2005/NGO/9,** *review of further implementation of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the 24th special session of the General Assembly* **management of financial resources; E/CN.5/2005/NGO/10,** *review of further implementation of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the 24th special session of the General Assembly* **Education as key to social development;**

E/CN.5/2005/NGO/11 *review of further implementation of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the 24th special session of the General Assembly* **- equality and equity of men and women; E/CN.5/2005/NGO/12** *review of further implementation of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the 24th special session of the General Assembly* **stable employment and decent work**

Commission on Human Rights

The DLC attended and participated in the Commission on Human Rights advocating for the rights of children and for religious minorities. We supported the following oral statements at the:

60th Session, Geneva 15 March 23 April 2004

E/CN.4/2004/SR.53,- *concern about the continued application of the death penalty;***E/CN.4/2004/SR.33** par 56, *concern about the rise of religious discrimination and intolerance;* **E/CN.4/2004/SR.3** (item 107) *–violation of the rights of people whose lands have been used by other governments as bombing sites.*

61st Session Geneva 14 March-22 April 2005

E/CN.4/2005/SR.45 (item 107)- *human rights of migrant;* **E/CN.4/2005/SR.26** (item 35)- *violation of the human rights of people whose land has been used by other governments as bombing sites;* **E/CN.4/2005/SR.20** (item22) – *violation of human rights of the Iraqi people due to violence and insecurity*

Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights

The DLC collaborated with other NGOs in submitting the following written statements supporting the administration of justice and the rule of law and economic and social rights

55th Session Geneva 2003 28 July 15 August

E/CN.4/Sub 2/2003/SR 11 paragraph 27-30 - *issue of discrimination in the use of the death penalty*

56th Session Geneva 26 July13 August 2004

E/CN.4/Sub.2/2004/SR.19 par. 80-84 *-continuation of the death penalty;* **E/CN.4/Sub.2/2004/SR.7** par 11 *-discrimination against religious minorities;* **E/CN.4/Sub/2004/SR.10** paragraph 57-*Violation of the human rights of people whose land had been used by other governments as bombing practice sites;* **E/CN.4/Sub/2004/SR.2** paragraph 4 *-Concern about the violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms of the people of Iraq*

57th Session Geneva 25 July-12August 2005

E/CN.4/Sub.2/2005/16 item 62,-*trafficking of persons as a violation of human rights*; **E/CN.4/Sub.2/2005/SR.12** item72 – *discrimination against religious minorities and religious intolerance on the basis of religion;* **E/CN.4/Sub.2/2005/SR. 4** item 3 –extreme violence and insecurity of the people of Iraq.

Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)

The DLC participates annually in the meetings of the CSW. Our members, active in both sending and receiving countries are very involved in programs supporting persons who have been trafficked, and in initiatives to prevent this abuse. We have worked with other NGOs to sponsor panels and side events as well as supported written statements. We have submitted written statements at the following sessions:

49th Session 8 February-11 March 2005

E/CN.6/2005NGO/1 *-implementation of strategic objectives and action in the critical areas of concern and further actions and initiatives*; **E/CN.6/2005NGO/4** - *review of gender mainstreaming in entities of the United Nations System;* **E/CN.6/2005NGO/23** - *current challenges and forward-looking strategies for the advancement and empowerment of women and girls*

48th Session 1-12 March 2004

E/CN.6/2004/NGO 13 - *Role of men and boys in achieving gender equality*

In addition, DLC members attended several session of CEDAW 13-31 January 2003, 30 June-15 July 2003, 12-30 January 2004 and 5-22 July 2005.

Commission on Sustainable Development

DLC has worked with the principles of Agenda 21 as well as with the Earth Charter in its educational and healthcare institutions. Numerous workshops based on UN principles have been conducted throughout the DLC network. DLC has participated in and organized with others, side events at UN commissions. Many members have founded, and continue to administer sustainable development activities. DLC membership has established, funded and continues to support centers for environmental education, and community supported agriculture such as Genesis Farm, http://www.genesisfarm.org/ and Crown Point Center

Members attended and participated in the following sessions of the CSD:

14th Session 14-30 April 2004;13th Session 18-April 9 May 2003

Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Members of the DLC have worked with and supported the rights of Indigenous Peoples and have attended and participated in the Permanent Forum. DLC membership is involved in educational and social development programs with Indigenous Peoples: *Third Session 10-21 May 2004,* UN Headquarters, New York; *Second Session 12- 23 May 2003* UN Headquarters, New York

Initiatives

DLC sponsored, conducted a number of initiatives supportive of the UN

During the period of 2003-2005

- Conducted UN awareness opportunities in educational settings; Conducted educational programs related to particular UN activity (Millennium Development Goals); Developed contacts with members in order to bring their experience to the UN; Hosted opportunities for membership groups at the UN (e.g. DLC Communication Network, Leadership Council of the DLC); Developed and conducted workshops on Human Trafficking in educational settings (High schools and colleges) and for membership groups throughout the United States.

DLC Representatives served on the following UN/NGO Committees:

- NGO Committee on Human Rights; NGO Committee on Social Development; NGO Committee the Status of Women; NGO Committee on Financing for Development; NGO Committee on HIV/AIDS; NGO Committee on Disarmament

And on the following

- NGO Working Group on Israel/Palestine; NGO Working Group on Iraq (representative served as Chair); NGO Working Group on Girls

5. HONG KONG FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CENTRES

(Special Consultative Status granted in 2002)

Part I: About the Hong Kong Federation of Women's Centres (HKFWC)

A. Background:

We are a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) situated in Hong Kong, Special Administrative Region of China (Hong Kong SAR of China).

B. Aims of the HKFWC:

1. To promote the rights and status of women; To help women develop their individual potential; To collaborate and co-ordinate with agencies and groups concerned with women's issues; To advise decision-making bodies on the needs of women and the resources required to meet these needs so as to encourage provision of desired services of the highest quality; To pioneer the development of resources and services that are in the interest of women.

C. Means to achieve our aims:

1. By providing women-centred service, we serve women in the community to develop their individual potential, to meet their multi-faceted needs, and to empower them.

2. By organizing a wide spectrum of thematic projects, we have fostered women's empowerment at both an individual level and a collective level.

3. By advocating for the causes of women in relation to social institutions, government policies and their operations, HKFWC has strived to improve the lot of women.

Part II: Participation in and Contribution to the work of the United Nations (UN)

A. Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and other United Nations meetings:

1 49th session of the Commission on Status of Women (CSW) 28 February- 11 March 2005 New York: Ms Carole PETERSEN, Honorary Consultant to the organization, represented the HKFWC in this session. Ms PETERSEN presented a paper at a workshop organized by the Korean Institute for Women and Politics, on political empowerment of women. She also distributed "Comments of the HKFWC on the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA) in Hong Kong SAR of China".

2. For Submission to Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) of the United Nations 25 April- 13 May 2005 in Geneva, Switzerland: Professor Virginia Bonoan-Dandan, the Chairperson of the CESCR, visited Hong Kong SAR of China in March 2005. The HKFWC shared with her the plight of women at the grassroots level, and pointed out to her that women in Hong Kong SAR of China do not enjoy adequate economic and social protection.

3. The Tenth Anniversary Commemoration of the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing+10 Conference) 29 August to 1 September 2005, Beijing: The sponsors of this conference were: the National Working Committee on Women and Children under the State Council of China, the All-China Women's Federation (ACWF), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, and the UN System in China. As HKFWC is in Special Consultative Status with ECOSOC, Dr Betty ENG (Chairperson) and Ms Man Ying FONG (Director) were invited to be members of the official delegation of Hong Kong SAR of China.

B. Activities carried out in cooperation with the specialized agencies of the United Nations

1. Focal Point of United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (UN-INSTRAW)

HKFWC was accepted to the Gender Awareness Information and Networking System (GAINS) as a Focal Point and member of the Research and Training Network in October 2001.

2. 5th East Asian Women's Forum (EAWF) (19 to 22 December 2003, Hong Kong SAR of China)

United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Institute for Education (UNESCO-UIE) were sponsors of the 5th EAWF. In addition to being the secretary of the hosting committee, HKFWC co-organized meetings, facilitated and presented in workshops, and submitted 5 papers for workshop discussions entitled "Accounting for Women's Work

Value in Dual Economies—Paid and Unpaid", "Homemakers' Right As Citizens", "Women Health & Inequality in HK", "Engendering ICT Development: A Rights Perspective", and "Experience on Implementation of Continuing Education for mid-aged Women: Hong Kong Case". In sum, the papers are concerned about the rights of unpaid homemakers/housewives, women's health, women and ICT, as well as women and education. Over 350 participants from China, Hong Kong SAR of China, Japan, Mongolia, Taiwan Province of China, and the Republic of Korea attended the 5th EAWF. HKFWC itself sponsored 19 women members and 16 staff to participate in the forum.

3. Asia Pacific NGO Forum on Beijing+10 (APNGO) (30 June to 3 July 2004, Bangkok)

HKFWC sponsored 2 women members from "Hong Kong Homemakers' Alliance", and 2 staff to attend the APNGO. In addition, 2 members of the Executive Committee of HKFWC attended. The foundation organized a caucus on unpaid work and successfully mobilized 4 other Asian NGOs to submit a "Report on Unpaid Work Caucus".

C. *Initiatives in support of the overall goals and objectives of the United Nations*

1. Committee for Asian Women (CAW) Exchange Program (9 to 13 October 2004, Hong Kong SAR of China): We shared our efforts in organizing a cooperative with other Asian women workers' groups. This was an attempt to address to the theme of women and economic empowerment.

2. China and Hong Kong SAR of China Joint Events in Celebration of Beijing+10 (24 to 27 April 2005, Beijing)

The 3 co-organizers of this event were ACWF, the Health, Welfare, and Food Bureau of the Hong Kong SAR of China, and the Women's Commission of Hong Kong SAR of China (WoC). HKFWC sent 2 representatives to join in the event. The organization's Director was a speaker in the concurrent session.

3 Participation in Decision Making

Ex-Director, Ms Yu CHAN, was an appointed member of the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) from May 2003 to May 2005. In December 2005, Ms Man Ying FONG, current Director, was appointed to the WoC for a term of 3 years starting from January 2006.

4. Gender Mainstreaming

This organization has been involved in various government advisory bodies and as members of other NGOs in order to put forth our opinions on various social issues with a gender perspective. HKFWC has also been engaging in gender sensitivity education and training to promote gender mainstreaming and to advocate for gender equality. It organized a "Symposium on Gender Equality and ICTs Development in HK".

5. Promotion of Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

Since July 2004, HKFWC has been a member of the CEDAW Network, which is a group for local education and promotion of CEDAW in Hong Kong SAR of China. In collaboration with other members of the Network, we translated the "Building Capacity for Change: Training Manual on CEDAW 2001" written by International Women's Rights Action Watch - Asia Pacific (IWRAW-AP) into Chinese. HKFWC itself published one

booklet on promotion of CEDAW in March 2003. A survey on Women's Understanding of CEDAW and Concept of Equality was conducted in 2003.

6. Advocacy

The HKFWC's advocacy work ranged from meeting with or lobbying government officials, Legislative Councilors, professional bodies, voicing our opinions through media, to submitting position papers regarding different social policies. Furthermore, it emphasized women's rights to civic participation in the decision making process. In March 2005, echoing to the 10th Anniversary of BPFA, the HKFWC organized the "Women's Political Exchange Forum 2005" with "Women and Poverty" as the theme to draw the society's attention to feminization of poverty.

7. Collaboration with women's NGOs and other NGOs

HKFWC collaborated with other NGOs in Hong Kong SAR of China to make suggestions and proposals regarding social issues and public policies which affect the welfare of women as well as monitoring the progress of such. Issues addressed included feminization of poverty, violence against women, sex discrimination, retirement protection, economic participation, sexual health and AIDS prevention.

8. Publications

The HKFWC reviewed and published its experiences in servicing women with an aim to advancing issues of concern to women. A booklet to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the New Territories Land (Exemption) Ordinance, which signified the struggle of indigenous women for their inheritance rights, was published in December 2004.